GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1019
ANSWERED ON:22.07.2002
EROSION DUE TO GANGA RIVER
A.K. PREMAJAM

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether a expert committee set up by the Planning Commission recommended Rs .927 crores to tackle the serious erosion problem of the Ganga River but only Rs. 19.68 crores has been approved by the Government;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government propose to undertake the short term projects estimated at Rs. 315 crores;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the time-frame, if any, fixed in this regard ?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SMT. BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY)

(a) , (b),(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. The Expert Committee recommended for taking up anti-erosion works amounting to Rs. 927.00 crore for short term and long term measures for Rs.315.00 crore and Rs. 612.00 crore respectively for the State of West Bengal. Based on the funds allocated by the Planning Commission for implementation of the recommendations of the Expert Committee, an EFC Memo for Rs. 19.68 crore was sanctioned for taking up anti-erosion works. Government has also undertaken the short term schemes through the State Government and Farakka Barrage Project Authority, funds for which have been released by Planning Commission and Ministry of Water Resources amounting Rs. 30.00 crore and Rs. 17.88 crore respectively during IXth Plan period. During the Xth Plan period a new scheme is proposed for undertaking the short term works amounting to Rs. 192.00 crore for criticial anti-erosion works in Ganga Basin States.

(e) The short term works identified in the Expenditure Finance Committee Memorandum are planned to be completed by Xth Plan period subject to site condition, results of model studies and availability of funds.